



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
UPPER PENINSULA DISTRICT OFFICE



DAN WYANT  
DIRECTOR

September 4, 2012

Mr. James M. Iwanicki, Engineer/Manager  
Marquette County Road Commission  
1610 North Second  
Ishpeming, Michigan 49849

Dear Mr. Iwanicki:

SUBJECT: Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)  
File Number 11-52-0075-P  
T47N, R29W, Section 2, Humboldt Township, Marquette County

This letter is in response to your letter dated August 16, 2012, containing information for DEQ's requested clarification of the comprehensive application for the proposed County Road 595, received July 29, 2012, and the subsequent revised wetland mitigation plan dated August 21, 2012. Most of the items addressed have been resolved, and some further clarification is requested as follows:

Item 5- Since proposed CR 595 is anticipated to be a low traffic volume road, please further clarify why a modified primary county road design would not meet the purpose points in table 3-8 of the application (included in your letter). Other primary county roads have been upgraded and/or rebuilt to lower design speeds, such as 45 miles per hour (vs. the "typical" 55 mph design). This alternative may also reduce wildlife vehicle strikes, according to previous Department of Natural Resources comments on the proposed road.

Item 6- As identified in your August 16, 2012, letter, the proposed passing lanes would directly impact 1.38 acres of wetland, including 0.84 acres of rare S-3 wetlands. Per Item 5 above, it also appears that the four proposed passing lanes could potentially be reduced in number and/or length due to anticipated low traffic volumes and applicable AASHTO standards. This would minimize disruption to the aquatic resources, and in particular to rare wetland communities.

Also, please provide the reasoning for selection of the proposed passing lane locations and lengths. Please clarify whether a design with less and/or shorter passing lanes has been examined, and provide the corresponding documentation if it has been determined to not be feasible or prudent to reduce the length and/or number of proposed passing lanes. Also please clarify why passing lanes instead of truck climbing lanes are proposed, and describe the difference in these types of extra lane design, as applicable to the anticipated truck flow rate, anticipated traffic volume, and proposed road length.

Item 12- The Cerulean warbler observations are as follows (Stationing approximate): June 11 near Station 1389, June 27 near Station 1300 (Trib to Kipple Creek beaver pond area), and July 20 near Station 1254.

Items 8 and 9- Wetland Mitigation plan. You have indicated that Michigamme Township will be copied with the draft mitigation plan, and DEQ will be notified via copy of the cover letter to the township.

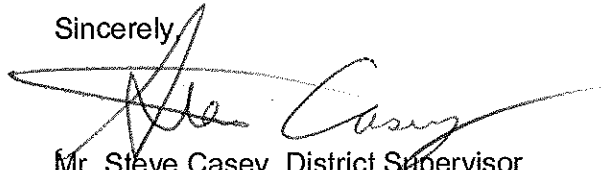
DEQ has some concerns with the proposed preservation area including the ensuring the short and long term management and stewardship of the parcel. Specifically information is requested to clarify the long and short term management of the proposed preservation parcel including: 1) a plan for closure of all roads (including two tracks) and how it will be accomplished; 2) identification and elimination of invasive species that are present along with identification and management of potential pathways for invasives; 3) ceasing of all logging on the parcels; 4) prevention of all ORV/ATV use within the proposed easement boundaries; 5) forfeiture of mineral rights (surface and subsurface); and 6) other actions as needed/identified to improve or enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

Further, the long term steward requirement in the attached draft conditions requires that the steward have the necessary resources to ensure permanent protection and management of the property. This would include having the necessary resources to conduct annual inspections, control any unauthorized access, control any future threats by invasive species, and any other future threats.

Additional mitigation plan requirement details have been included in the enclosed updated draft permit conditions, developed by DEQ in the event it is determined that a permit will be issued. The updated draft conditions are enclosed for your reference.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 906-346-8535; [caseys@michigan.gov](mailto:caseys@michigan.gov); Ms. Ginny Pennala at 906-346-8559, [pennalav@michigan.gov](mailto:pennalav@michigan.gov), or at the address listed. Please include your file number 11-52-0075-P, in your response.

Sincerely,



Mr. Steve Casey, District Supervisor  
Upper Peninsula District Office  
Water Resources Division

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Jeff King, King and MacGregor  
Ms. Ginny Pennala, DEQ

**Draft Conditions if DEQ Issues a Part 301/303 Permit for**  
**Marquette County Road 595**  
**09/05/2012**

1. All work shall be completed in accordance with plans prepared by King & McGregor and Coleman Engineering and received on July 25, 2012. Said plans are kept on file at the MDEQ's Water Resources Division.
2. In issuing this permit, the MDEQ has relied on the information and data which the permittee has provided in connection with the permit application. If, subsequent to the issuance of this permit, such information and data prove to be false, incomplete, or inaccurate, the MDEQ may modify, revoke, or suspend the permit, in whole or in part, in accordance with the new information.
3. The permittee is responsible for acquiring all necessary easements or rights-of-way before commencing any work authorized by this permit. All construction operations relating to or part of this project shall be confined to the existing right-of-way limits or other acquired easements.
4. The authority to conduct the activity as authorized by this permit is granted solely under the provisions of the governing act as identified above. This permit does not convey, provide, or otherwise imply approval of any other governing act, ordinance, or regulation, nor does it waive the permittee's obligation to acquire any local, county, state or federal approval, or authorizations necessary to conduct the activity.
5. Noncompliance with these terms and conditions, and/or the initiation of other regulated activities not specifically authorized by this permit shall be cause for the modification, suspension, or revocation of this permit, in whole or in part. Further, the MDEQ may initiate criminal and/or civil proceedings as may be deemed necessary to correct project deficiencies, protect natural resource values, and secure compliance with statutes.
6. If any change or deviation from the permitted activity becomes necessary, the permittee shall request, in writing, a revision of the permitted activity and/or mitigation plan from the MDEQ. Such revision requests shall include complete documentation supporting the modification and revised plans detailing the proposed modification. Proposed modifications must be approved, in writing, by the MDEQ prior to being implemented.
7. This permit may be transferred to another person upon written approval of the MDEQ. The permittee must submit a written request to the MDEQ to transfer the permit to the new owner. The new owner must also submit a written request to accept transfer of the permit. The new owner must agree, in writing, to accept all conditions of the permit. A single letter signed by both parties which includes all the above information may be provided to the MDEQ. The MDEQ will review the request and if approved, will provide written notification to the new owner.
8. Authority granted by this permit does not waive compliance requirements under Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control, of the NREPA. Any discharge of sediment into waters of the state and/or off the road right-of-way is a violation of this permit, Part 91, and Part 31, Water Resources Protection, of the NREPA. A violation of these parts subjects the permittee to potential fines and penalties.
9. Temporary soil erosion and sedimentation control measures shall be installed before commencement of the earth change and shall be maintained daily. Temporary soil erosion and sedimentation control measures shall be maintained until permanent soil

erosion and sedimentation control measures are in place and the area is stabilized. Permanent soil erosion and sedimentation control measures for all slopes, channels, ditches, or any disturbed area shall be installed within five (5) calendar days after final grading or the final earth change has been completed.

10. All raw areas resulting from the permitted construction activity shall be promptly and effectively stabilized with sod and/or seed and mulch (or other technology specified by this permit or project plans) in a sufficient quantity and manner so as to prevent erosion and any potential siltation to surface waters or wetlands.
11. All raw earth within 100 feet of a lake, stream, or wetland that is not brought to final stabilization by the end of the active growing season shall be temporarily stabilized with mulch blankets by September 20<sup>th</sup>.
12. All dredge/excavated spoils including organic and inorganic soils, vegetation, and other material removed shall be placed on upland (non-wetland, non-floodplain or non-bottomland), prepared for stabilization, and stabilized with sod and/or seed and mulch in such a manner so as to prevent and ensure against erosion of any material into any waterbody, wetland, or floodplain.
13. During removal or repair of the existing structure, every precaution shall be taken to prevent debris from entering any watercourse. Any debris reaching the watercourse during the removal and/or reconstruction of the structure shall be immediately retrieved from the water. All material shall be disposed of in an acceptable manner consistent with local, state, and federal regulations.
14. The use of explosives for removal of a structure over a water body, including any abutments or piers, is prohibited.
15. Prior to the removal of the existing structures located in the water or wetland; cofferdams of steel sheet piling, gravel bags, clean stone, coarse aggregate, or concrete barriers shall be installed to isolate all construction activities from the water. The barriers shall be maintained in good working order throughout the duration of the project. Upon project completion, the accumulated materials shall be removed and disposed of at an upland site. All cofferdam and temporary steel sheet pile shall then be removed in its entirety, unless specifically shown to be left in place on the plans. Cofferdam and sheet pile that is left in place shall be cut off at the elevation shown on the plans and shall be a minimum of 1 foot below the stream bottom.
16. The existing structure shall be kept open to pass the stream flow during removal of the existing road fill.
17. The placement of the new culvert and the initial placement of fill in the stream shall be done immediately after removal of the existing culvert. The placement shall be conducted in such a manner that all flow is immediately passed through the new culverts, allowing the major placement of fill to be done in the dry or in still water where erosion and siltation will be minimized. The fill material used in this initial placement shall be washed gravel, coarse aggregate, or rock and shall be placed at both ends of the culvert to a level above normal water level before backfill material is placed. Bagged concrete riprap may be used for end fill.
18. The culvert shall be installed to align with the centerline of the existing stream at both the inlet and outlet ends, and must be recessed to allow a natural substrate throughout the structure, unless otherwise indicated in the conditions of this permit.

19. Road fill side slopes shall not be steeper than 1-on-2 (1 vertical to 2 horizontal) except where headwalls of reinforced concrete, mortar masonry, dry masonry, or other acceptable methods are used.
20. Road fill side slopes terminating in the stream and any raw stream banks resulting from this construction shall be immediately riprapped to the ordinary high water mark. The exposed bank above the ordinary high water mark and all other raw slopes and ditches draining directly to the stream must be protected with riprap over geotextile filter fabric or stabilized with appropriate Best Management Practices based on site conditions as necessary to provide effective erosion protection.
21. If the project, or any portion of the project, is stopped and lies incomplete for any length of time other than that encountered in a normal work week, every precaution shall be taken to protect the incomplete work from erosion, including the placement of temporary gravel bag riprap or other acceptable temporary protection.
22. No work shall be done in the stream during periods of above-normal flows except as necessary to prevent erosion.
23. Unless specifically stated under the "Permitted Activity" of this permit, construction pads, haul roads, temporary structures, or other structural appurtenances to be placed in a wetland or on bottomland of the waterbody are not authorized and shall not be constructed unless authorized by a separate permit or permit revision granted in accordance with the applicable law.
24. If the stream is blocked off with clean stone and/or gravel bags and the water pumped around the crossing the water shall be discharged into the watercourse with appropriate treatments to remove suspended particles and to dissipate energy. An extra pump shall be kept on site in the event of failure.
25. If the stream is passed through a temporary channel, the channel shall be completely stabilized with riprap placed over geotextile filter fabric prior to passing flow and maintained in good working condition until the culvert is installed and stabilized.
26. Prior to the start of construction, all adjacent non-work wetland areas shall be protected by properly trenched filter fabric fence to prevent sediment from entering the wetland. Orange construction fencing shall be installed to prohibit construction personnel from entering or performing work in these areas. Fencing shall be maintained daily throughout the construction process. Upon project completion, the accumulated materials shall be removed and disposed of at an upland site. The erosion barrier shall then be removed in its entirety and the area restored to its original configuration and cover.
27. All fill/backfill shall consist of clean inert material that will not cause siltation nor contain soluble chemicals, organic matter, pollutants, or contaminants. All fill shall be contained in such a manner so as not to erode into any surface water, floodplain, or wetland. All raw areas associated with the permitted activity shall be stabilized with sod and/or seed and mulch, riprap, or other technically effective methods as necessary to prevent erosion.

28. Equalization culverts shall be placed at an elevation within the roadway to insure that water will reach equal levels on either side of the road.
29. The proposed channel relocation shall be constructed in the dry. Upstream and downstream plugs shall remain in place until the new channel is capable of handling flows without causing siltation.
30. Graded riprap consisting of clean stone or cut rock shall be placed in sufficient quantity over geotextile fabric so all voids are filled to provide adequate erosion protection. The use of broken concrete or asphalt is not authorized at this site.
31. A storm water discharge permit may be required under the Federal Clean Water Act for construction activities that disturb one or more acres of land and discharge to surface waters. For sites over five (5) acres, the permit coverage may be obtained by a Part 91, Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control (SESC), permit and filing a "Notice of Coverage" form to the MDEQ's Water Resources Division. For sites with disturbance from one acre up to five acres, storm water coverage is automatic once the SESC permit is obtained. These one to five acre sites are not required to apply for coverage, but are required to comply with storm water discharge permit requirements. Information on the storm water discharge permit is available from the Water Bureau's Storm Water Permit Program at [www.michigan.gov/deqwater](http://www.michigan.gov/deqwater). Select "surface water" and then select "storm water."
32. The following threatened species are known to occur on or near this project site and may be impacted by your activities: **Narrow-leaved Gentian and the Cerulean Warbler**. Issuance of this permit does not obviate the need to obtain approval under Part 365, Endangered Species, of the NREPA, from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' (MDNR) Natural Heritage Program prior to commencement of construction activity. Please contact the Endangered Species Specialist, Wildlife Division, MDNR, P.O. Box 30180, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7944, at 517-373-1263.
33. The applicant shall perform an annual inspection and conduct necessary cleanouts of the energy dissipation basins to ensure that they are properly functioning so as to prevent sediment from entering a regulated waterbody and wetlands. Records of these inspections shall be maintained by the applicant and made available to the MDEQ upon request.
34. Following the completion of construction the applicant shall provide as-built drawings to the MDEQ verifying CR-595 was constructed as permitted. As built drawings shall be provided for each of the stream crossings and the final road toe of slope to verify the acreage of wetland impacts.

#### **Wetland Preservation/Mitigation**

**Any work in regulated areas authorized by this permit is prohibited until an acceptable final mitigation plan is submitted by the permittee and approved by the MDEQ.**

- 1) 35. The permittee shall, as a primary condition of this permit, mitigate the loss of 25.12 acres (trail 5 not included) of wetland, consisting of: 23.99 acres and 0.01 direct impact from CR-595 and the East Brach Salmon Trout respectively; 0.39 acres to account for small fragmented wetlands; and 0.74 acres from temporary impacts. The wetland impacts consist of 19.65 acres of forested, 4.85 acres of scrub-shrub, and 0.94

acres of emergent wetland and include impacts to wetland community types classified as S3 or rarer community types by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory. The ratios of impacted wetlands containing Rare or Imperiled Natural Communities AND wetlands containing Threatened or Endangered Species. These must be mitigated at a 12:1 preservation ratio. This should be presented in a table that includes acreage of community type impacted, acreage of community type preserved, acreage of T&E Species area impacted, acreage of T&E species area preserved. A table shall be provided in the final plan showing the above ratios plus other wetland mitigation meets the proper preservation mitigation ratio of at least 10:1.

In order to mitigate for the direct and/or indirect impacts to 25.12 acres of wetland, the permittee shall preserve \_\_\_ acres of high quality wetland which shall include the preservation of \_\_\_\_ acres of S3 or rarer wetland community types, and \_\_\_ acres of upland buffer into a permanent conservation easement

36. The permittee shall execute a conservation easement over all wetland preservation areas in a form identical to the conservation easement model on the MDEQ's website at [www.michigan.gov/wetlands](http://www.michigan.gov/wetlands). The original executed conservation easement and associated exhibits must be sent to the MDEQ for review and recording prior to commencement of any permitted work or within 60 days of the issuance of this permit which ever occurs first. Send to: Conservation Easement Coordinator, MDEQ, Water Resources Division, P.O. Box 30458, Lansing, Michigan, 48909, with a copy of the executed easement mailed to the District Office.
37. The permittee shall provide the following documentation of ownership for the wetland preservation areas. This documentation must be submitted with the original executed conservation easement to the Conservation Easement Coordinator at the above address.
- A title report or title opinion that provides 50-year ownership history including copies of all deeds, encumbrances, easements, severed mineral rights, and other pertinent documents.
  - A written statement from the property owner that there are no easements, encumbrances, or transfers of the property, in whole or in part, not disclosed in the title search or ownership history.
  - Subordination of any property interest (e.g., mineral rights, mortgages, easements) that would interfere with establishment and protection of the conservation easement.
  - A title insurance policy insuring the conservation easement area in the name of the MDEQ, in an amount determined by the MDEQ.
  - A copy of the warranty deed.
  - If the property owner is a company, documentation that the person executing the conservation easement has the authority to convey land on behalf of the company.
38. The permittee may request in writing a permit revision to extend the time deadline for submittal of the conservation easement. Such permit revision shall be considered a minor permit revision pursuant to Section 30313b and must be accompanied by the appropriate fee.
39. The conservation easement boundaries shall be demarcated by the placement of signage along the perimeter. The signage shall be placed at an adequate frequency,

visibility, and height for viewing, made of a suitable material to withstand climatic conditions, and should be replaced as needed. The signage shall include the following bolded language:

WETLAND CONSERVATION EASEMENT  
NO CONSTRUCTION OR PLACEMENT OF STRUCTURES ALLOWED.  
NO MOWING, CUTTING, FILLING, DREDGING OR  
APPLICATION OF CHEMICALS ALLOWED.  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

40. Except as otherwise provided by this permit or approved in writing by the MDEQ, the following activities are prohibited in perpetuity within the conservation easement areas: alteration of surface topography, creation of paths, trails, or roads; placement of fill, dredging, or excavation; drainage of surface or groundwater; construction or placement of any structure; plowing, tilling, or cultivating the soils or vegetation; cutting, removal, or alteration of vegetation; including the planting of non-native plant species; ranching, grazing, farming; use of chemical pesticides, fungicides, herbicides, or other chemical treatment; construction of unauthorized utility or petroleum lines; storage or disposal of garbage, yard waste, trash, debris, abandoned equipment; accumulation of machinery or other waste materials; use or storage of off-road vehicles; placement of billboards or signage; use of the wetland for the dumping of untreated storm water (except as otherwise allowed in this permit); or actions or uses detrimental or adverse to water conservation and purity, and fish, wildlife, or habitat preservation.
41. The permittee shall submit an surety bond or letter of credit to the MDEQ in a form identical to the financial assurance models on the MDEQ's website at [www.michigan.gov/wetlands](http://www.michigan.gov/wetlands) in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to ensure that the conservation easements are recorded, signs are posted, site enhancement measures are completed, a management plan is provided, baseline conditions are documented, an adequate stewardship agreement and funds have been established, and all other mitigation actions are performed as required to comply with the requirements and conditions of this permit. The financial assurance document shall be provided to and accepted by the MDEQ prior to signature of this permit by the MDEQ.
42. Upon request of the permittee and with the submittal of adequate proofs, the MDEQ may release portions of the financial instrument in accordance with the following guidelines:
- i. 50% when adequate executed conservation easements are submitted to the MDEQ and recorded for all wetland preservation areas.
  - ii. 50% when site management plans are completed, signs are posted, any site enhancement activities are completed, monitoring reports are provided, and a long term management plan and related stewardship agreements and endowment funds are established and have been submitted and approved by the MDEQ.
43. Prior to the transfer of this permit to another person, the new person must obtain and provide a financial instrument acceptable to the MDEQ in the name of the new person and in the amount required by this permit.
44. Baseline Ecological Report of Conservation Easement Area: The permittee shall submit a baseline ecological report for the conservation easement area by \_\_\_\_\_. The baseline ecological report shall include a land use history, a current aerial photo,



appropriate maps, and a plan view that depicts the property boundaries for the conservation easement area(s). The baseline report shall include a delineation of all wetland community types following The Natural Communities of Michigan: Classification and Description, Kost et al 2007, with acreage estimates for each community type. The information shall also include the location of natural features (streams, endangered plants or animals, etc.), existing and adjacent land uses (roads, utility lines, structures, vegetative buffer area, trails, etc.), areas of invasive species, drains or ditches, and other anthropogenic influences (stormwater, etc.). In addition, the baseline ecological report shall include the following information for each wetland community:

a. Photographic documentation collected from permanent photo stations located within each wetland community type as identified within the baseline ecological report. Photos must be labeled with the location (i.e., GPS Coordinates and shown on a site map), date photographed, and direction.

b. Plant community data collected within sample plots for each wetland community type shown within the baseline ecological report. The plot data shall identify plant species and absolute percent cover for each species within each plant strata (herbaceous, shrub, tree overstory) located within sample plots. The plant community data shall be collected once between May 15 and July 1 and once between August 1 and September 15.

The number of sample plots necessary within each wetland type shall be determined by use of a species-area curve or other approach approved by the MDEQ. The minimum number of sample plots for each wetland type shall be no fewer than fifteen (15), unless a correctly computed species area curve shows that fewer samples are sufficient. Sample plots shall be located on the sample transect at evenly spaced intervals or by another approach acceptable to the MDEQ. If additional or alternative sample transects are needed to sufficiently evaluate each wetland type, they must be approved in advance in writing by the MDEQ.

The herbaceous layer (all non-woody plants and woody plants less than 3.28 feet in height) shall be sampled using a 3.28 foot by 3.28 foot sample plot. The shrub and tree layer shall be sampled using a 30-foot radius sample plot. The data recorded for each herbaceous layer sample plot shall include a list of all living plant species, and an estimate of absolute percent cover in five (5) percent intervals for each species, bare soil areas, and open water areas relative to the total area of the plot. The number and species of surviving, established, and free-to-grow trees and surviving, established, and free-to-grow shrubs shall be recorded for each 30-foot radius plot.

Provide plot data and a list of all the plant species identified in the plots and otherwise observed during monitoring. Data for each plant species must include common name, scientific name, wetland indicator category from, physiognomic classification, and whether the species is considered native according to the Michigan Floristic Quality Assessment (Michigan Department of Natural Resources, 2001). Nomenclature shall follow Robert W. Lichvar and John T. Kartesz. 2009. North American Digital Flora: National Wetland Plant List, version 2.4.0 ([https://wetland\\_plants.usace.army.mil](https://wetland_plants.usace.army.mil)). U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineer Research and Development Center, Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory, Hanover, NH, and BONAP, Chapel Hill, NC.

The location of sample transects and plots shall be identified in the monitoring report on a plan view showing the location of wetland types. Each transect and sample plot

shall be permanently and visibly staked at a frequency sufficient to locate the transect and sample plots in the field.

- c. Observations of animal use of conservation easement areas.
  - d. Written summary of all data collected and discussion of any problem areas that identified and potential corrective measures to address them.
45. A qualified individual able to identify vegetation to genus and species must conduct the baseline ecological report. The MDEQ reserves the right to reject a report with substandard wetland monitoring data.
46. Conservation Easement Area Management Plan: A management plan outlining goals, methods, and measures to document actions taken to enhance the site; minimize or eliminate identified threats to the easement; and address any on-going site maintenance activities such as water control structures, invasive species control measures, etc. that will ensure the long term sustainability of the conservation easement area shall be submitted and approved by the MDEQ prior to initiating any work in regulated areas authorized by this permit. The permittee shall complete enhancement activities in the conservation easement site to remove or reduce threats and to prevent the decline of wetland functions and values.
47. Long Term Management Plan: Active long term management, monitoring, and maintenance are determined to be necessary to ensure long term sustainability (e.g. prescribed burning, invasive species control, maintenance of water control structures, easement enforcement) of the conservation easement area(s). The permittee shall submit by \_\_\_\_\_ for MDEQ approval a long term management plan for all approved conservation easement areas. . The long-term management plan shall include provisions for monitoring, placement and maintenance of signs and fencing, periodic inspection of the site, removal of trash and debris, control of invasive species, blocking of illegal trails, maintenance of existing structures such as water control structures, annual reporting to the MDEQ, and any other site-specific management practices.
48. Stewardship Agreement: The permittee shall identify a responsible party to provide for the long term management, maintenance and monitoring of the conservation easement area(s). A stewardship agreement with an appropriate third party (e.g. municipality or non-profit resource management agency such as a land conservancy) and the MDEQ, that is in compliance with the MDEQ approved long term management plan shall be established and recorded as Exhibit E to the Conservation Easement Agreement. A long term financing mechanism or endowment fund to provide for the long term management, monitoring and sustainability of the site shall be considered as part of the Stewardship Agreement to provide for the long term maintenance and sustainability of the Conservation Easement area(s). The stewardship agreement shall provide for annual inspections of the conservation easement area with annual inspection reports provided to the MDEQ. The inspection reports shall include a description of the overall condition of the easement area, any changes to the easement, any threats to the easement, and actions the steward is proposing to take to eliminate any threats.
- 49 This permit is being issued for the maximum time allowed under Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams and Part 303, Wetlands Protection, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, PA 451 of 1994, as amended, including all permit extensions allowed under the administrative rules R 281.813 and R 281.923. Therefore, no extensions of this permit will be granted. Initiation of the construction work authorized

by this permit indicates the permittee's acceptance of this condition. The permit, when signed by the MDEQ, will be for a five-year period beginning at the date of issuance.

50

- ~~a. The applicant agrees to work with the MDNR to develop a plan to re-establish a failed beaver pond to re-establish critical moose habitat.~~
- ~~b. The applicant agrees to monitor and report vehicle-wildlife collisions to the DNR to determine if additional mitigation measures are needed and to determine where wildlife crossing signs are to be posted.~~
- ~~c. The applicant agrees to work with the MDNR to limit the building or connection of secondary roads in critical habitat areas identified by the MDNR. In some cases this may involve placing conservation easements, deed restrictions, or purchasing land. (Include a, b and c in separate letter)~~
- d. All exposed soils adjacent to the proposed road will be stabilized with weed free straw as soon as possible after construction is completed in each area. These areas will be seeded with native grasses and forbs.
- e. In August of the first three years after final seeding the applicant agrees to survey for invasive species all areas that were disturbed during construction. Any invasive species will be removed or treated with herbicide. Monitoring will continue after the last treatment on an area where invasive species were removed for a period of three years. A report shall be prepared each year summarizing the findings of the invasive species survey and treatment. A copy of the report shall be submitted to the MDEQ and the MDNR.

- 51 Upon the start of construction the applicant shall provide a summary at the end of each month to the MDEQ-WRD UP district office of work activities completed. Any problems affecting areas regulated by this permit shall also be included in the monthly summary and reported immediately to the UP district office.
- 52 Prior to the initiation of any activities authorized by this permit, the permittee shall submit a restoration plan addressing each of the wetland areas to be restored by removal of existing road materials. Information indicating the anticipated effects on the hydrological regime of the adjacent/restored wetlands shall be included in the plan, including measures to assure that the hydrology is not altered in a way that has further detrimental effect on the wetland. Final construction plans detailing the stream restoration measures at each restoration site shall be submitted and approved by the MDEQ before the start of construction.

The plan shall include the placement of salvaged wetland soils from authorized excavation areas, and a vegetation management plan with standards for the establishment of appropriate native vegetation and the prevention of the establishment of invasive plant species. The restored areas shall be seeded with annual rye grass to minimize the threat of invasive species while allowing the natural vegetation to take hold.

The poor fen and muskeg restoration areas near Stations 1445 and 1665 respectively, shall include the removal of only the top portion of existing road fill materials and placement of native wetland soils to the adjacent wetland elevation.

53. This permit shall become effective on the date of the MDEQ representative's signature. Upon signing by the permittee named herein, this permit must be returned to the MDEQ's Water Resources Division, for final execution.

Permittee hereby accepts and agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of this permit.

X

\_\_\_\_\_  
Permittee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

X

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name and Title of Permittee

